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Regularized hybrid iterative algorithms for triple hierarchical variational inequalities

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Abstract

In this paper, we introduce and study a triple hierarchical variational inequality (THVI) with constraints of minimization and equilibrium problems. More precisely, let $\text{Fix}(T)$ be the fixed point set of a nonexpansive mapping, let $\text{MEP}(\Theta, \varphi)$ be the solution set of a mixed equilibrium problem (MEP), and let Γ be the solution set of a minimization problem (MP) for a convex and continuously Frechet differential functional in Hilbert spaces. We want to find a solution $x^* \in \text{Fix}(T) \cap \text{MEP}(\Theta, \varphi) \cap \Gamma$ of a variational inequality with a variational inequality constraint over the intersection of $\text{Fix}(T)$, $\text{MEP}(\Theta, \varphi)$, and Γ . We propose a hybrid iterative algorithm with regularization to compute approximate solutions of the THVI, and we present the convergence analysis of the proposed iterative algorithm.

MSC: 49J40; 47J20; 47H10; 65K05; 47H09**Keywords:** triple hierarchical variational inequality; minimization problem; mixed equilibrium problem; nonexpansive mapping; maximal monotone mapping; regularization

1 Introduction

Let H be a Hilbert space with inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ and norm $\| \cdot \|$ over the real scalar field \mathbb{R} . Let C be a nonempty closed convex subset of H , and P_C be the metric projection of H onto C . Let $T : C \rightarrow C$ be a self-mapping on C . Denote by $\text{Fix}(T)$ the set of fixed points of T . We say that T is L -Lipschitzian if there exists a constant $L \geq 0$ such that

$$\|Tx - Ty\| \leq L\|x - y\|, \quad \forall x, y \in C.$$

When $L = 1$ or $0 \leq L < 1$, we call T a *nonexpansive* or a *contractive* mapping, respectively. We say that a mapping $A : C \rightarrow H$ is α -inverse strongly monotone if there exists a constant $\alpha > 0$ such that

$$\langle Ax - Ay, x - y \rangle \geq \alpha \|Ax - Ay\|^2, \quad \forall x, y \in C,$$

and that A is η -strongly monotone (resp. monotone) if there exists a constant $\eta > 0$ (resp. $\eta = 0$) such that

$$\langle Ax - Ay, x - y \rangle \geq \eta \|x - y\|^2, \quad \forall x, y \in C.$$

It is known that T is nonexpansive if and only if $I - T$ is $\frac{1}{2}$ -inverse strongly monotone. Moreover, L -Lipschitz continuous mappings are $\frac{1}{L}$ -inversely strong monotone (see, e.g., [1]).

Let $f : C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a convex and continuously Frechet differentiable functional. Consider the minimization problem (MP):

$$\min_{x \in C} f(x) \quad (1.1)$$

(assuming the existence of minimizers). We denote by $\Gamma \neq \emptyset$ the set of minimizers of problem (1.1). The gradient-projection algorithm (GPA) generates a sequence $\{x_n\}$ determined by the gradient ∇f and the metric projection P_C :

$$x_{n+1} := P_C(x_n - \lambda \nabla f(x_n)), \quad \forall n \geq 0. \quad (1.2)$$

The convergence of algorithm (1.2) depends on ∇f . It is known that if ∇f is η -strongly monotone and L -Lipschitz continuous, then for $0 < \lambda < \frac{2\eta}{L^2}$, the operator

$$S := P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f)$$

is a contraction. Hence, the sequence $\{x_n\}$ defined by the GPA (1.2) converges in norm to the unique solution of (1.1). If the gradient ∇f is only assumed to be Lipschitz continuous, then $\{x_n\}$ can only be weakly convergent when H is infinite-dimensional (a counterexample to the norm convergence of $\{x_n\}$ is given by Xu [2, Section 5]).

The regularization, in particular the traditional Tikhonov regularization, is usually used to solve ill-posed optimization problems. Consider the regularized minimization problem

$$\min_{x \in C} f_\alpha(x) := f(x) + \frac{\alpha}{2} \|x\|^2,$$

where $\alpha > 0$ is the regularization parameter, and again f is convex with Lipschitz continuous gradient ∇f . While a regularization method provides the possible strong convergence to the minimum-norm solution, its disadvantage is the implicitity. Hence explicit iterative methods seem to be attractive. See, e.g., Xu [2, 3].

On the other hand, for a given mapping $A : C \rightarrow H$, we consider the variational inequality problem (VIP) of finding $x^* \in C$ such that

$$\langle Ax^*, x - x^* \rangle \geq 0, \quad \forall x \in C. \quad (1.3)$$

The solution set of VIP (1.3) is denoted by $\text{VI}(C, A)$. It is well known that when A is monotone,

$$x \in \text{VI}(C, A) \Leftrightarrow x = P_C(x - \lambda Ax), \quad \forall \lambda > 0.$$

Variational inequality theory has been studied quite extensively and has emerged as an important tool in several branches of pure and applied sciences; see, e.g., [1, 4–8] and the references therein.

When C is the fixed point set $\text{Fix}(T)$ of a nonexpansive mapping T and $A = I - S$, VIP (1.3) becomes the variational inequality problem of finding $x^* \in \text{Fix}(T)$ such that

$$\langle (I - S)x^*, x - x^* \rangle \geq 0, \quad \forall x \in \text{Fix}(T). \quad (1.4)$$

This problem, introduced by Moudafi and Maingé [9, 10], is called the hierarchical fixed point problem. It is clear that if S has fixed points, then they are solutions of VIP (1.4). If S is contractive, the solution set of VIP (1.4) is a singleton and it is well known as a viscosity problem. This was previously introduced by Moudafi [11] and also developed by Xu [12]. In this case, solving VIP (1.4) is equivalent to finding a fixed point of the nonexpansive mapping $P_{\text{Fix}(T)}S$, where $P_{\text{Fix}(T)}$ is the metric projection onto the closed and convex set $\text{Fix}(T)$. Yao *et al.* [8] introduced a two-step algorithm to solve VIP (1.4).

Let $\Theta : C \times C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a bifunction and $\varphi : C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a function. Consider the mixed equilibrium problem (MEP) of finding $x \in C$ such that

$$\Theta(x, y) + \varphi(y) - \varphi(x) \geq 0, \quad \forall y \in C, \quad (1.5)$$

which was studied by Ceng and Yao [13]. The solution set of MEP (1.5) is denoted by $\text{MEP}(\Theta, \varphi)$. The MEP (1.5) is very general in the sense that it includes, as special cases, fixed point problems, optimization problems, variational inequality problems, minimax problems, Nash equilibrium problems in noncooperative games and others; see, *e.g.*, [13–15].

Recently, Iiduka [16, 17] considered a variational inequality with a variational inequality constraint over the set of fixed points of a nonexpansive mapping. Since this problem has a triple structure in contrast with bilevel programming problems or hierarchical constrained optimization problems or hierarchical fixed point problems, it is referred to as a triple hierarchical constrained optimization problem (THCOP). He presented some examples of THCOP and developed iterative algorithms to find the solution of such a problem. Since the original problem is a variational inequality, in this paper, we call it a *triple hierarchical variational inequality* (THVI). Ceng *et al.* introduced and considered some THVI in [18]. A nice survey article on THVI is [19]. See also [20–22].

Extending the works done in [18], we introduce and study in this paper the following triple hierarchical variational inequality with constraints of minimization and equilibrium problems.

The problem to study

Let C be a nonempty closed convex subset of a real Hilbert space H . Let $f : C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be convex and continuously Frechet differentiable with Γ being the set of its minimizers. Let $T : C \rightarrow C$ and $S : H \rightarrow H$ be both nonexpansive. Let $V : H \rightarrow H$ be ρ -contractive, and $F : C \rightarrow H$ be κ -Lipschitzian and η -strongly monotone with constants $\rho \in [0, 1)$ and $\kappa, \eta > 0$. Suppose $0 < \mu < 2\eta/\kappa^2$ and $0 < \gamma \leq \tau$ where $\tau = 1 - \sqrt{1 - \mu(2\eta - \mu\kappa^2)}$.

Let \mathcal{E} denote the solution set of the following hierarchical variational inequality (HVI): find $z^* \in \text{Fix}(T) \cap \text{MEP}(\Theta, \varphi) \cap \Gamma$ such that

$$\langle (\mu F - \gamma S)z^*, z - z^* \rangle \geq 0, \quad \forall z \in \text{Fix}(T) \cap \text{MEP}(\Theta, \varphi) \cap \Gamma,$$

where the solution set \mathcal{E} is assumed to be nonempty. Consider the following triple hierarchical variational inequality (THVI).

Find $x^* \in \mathcal{E}$ such that

$$\langle (\mu F - \gamma V)x^*, x - x^* \rangle \geq 0, \quad \forall x \in \mathcal{E}. \quad (1.6)$$

Based on the iterative schemes provided by Xu [2] and the two-step iterative scheme provided by Yao *et al.* [8], by virtue of the viscosity approximation method, hybrid steepest-descent method and the regularization method, we propose the following hybrid iterative algorithm with regularization:

$$\begin{cases} \Theta(u_n, y) + \varphi(y) - \varphi(u_n) + \frac{1}{r_n} \langle y - u_n, u_n - x_n \rangle \geq 0, & \forall y \in C, \\ y_n = \theta_n \gamma Sx_n + (I - \theta_n \mu F)P_C(u_n - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n}(u_n)), \\ x_{n+1} = \beta_n \gamma Vy_n + (I - \beta_n \mu F)TP_C(u_n - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n}(u_n)), & \forall n \geq 0. \end{cases}$$

Here, $0 < \lambda < 2/L$, $\{r_n\}, \{\alpha_n\} \subset (0, +\infty)$, and $\{\beta_n\}, \{\theta_n\} \subset (0, 1)$. It is shown that under appropriate assumptions, the two iterative sequences $\{x_n\}$ and $\{y_n\}$ converge strongly to the unique solution of the THVI (1.6).

2 Preliminaries

Let K be a nonempty closed convex subset of a real Hilbert space H . We write $x_n \rightharpoonup x$ and $x_n \rightarrow x$ to indicate that the sequence $\{x_n\}$ converges weakly and strongly to x , respectively. The weak ω -limit set of the sequence $\{x_n\}$ is denoted by

$$\omega_w(x_n) := \{x \in H : x_{n_i} \rightharpoonup x \text{ for some subsequence } \{x_{n_i}\} \text{ of } \{x_n\}\}.$$

The metric (or nearest point) projection from H onto K is the mapping $P_K : H \rightarrow K$ which assigns to each point $x \in H$ the unique point $P_K x \in K$ satisfying the property

$$\|x - P_K x\| = \inf_{y \in K} \|x - y\| =: d(x, K).$$

Proposition 2.1 For given $x \in H$ and $z \in K$:

- (i) $z = P_K x \Leftrightarrow \langle x - z, y - z \rangle \leq 0, \forall y \in K$;
- (ii) $z = P_K x \Leftrightarrow \|x - z\|^2 \leq \|x - y\|^2 - \|y - z\|^2, \forall y \in K$;
- (iii) $\langle P_K x - P_K y, x - y \rangle \geq \|P_K x - P_K y\|^2, \forall y \in H$.

Hence, P_K is nonexpansive and monotone.

Definition 2.2 A mapping $T : H \rightarrow H$ is said to be *firmly nonexpansive* if $2T - I$ is nonexpansive, or equivalently,

$$\langle x - y, Tx - Ty \rangle \geq \|Tx - Ty\|^2, \quad \forall x, y \in H.$$

Alternatively, T is firmly nonexpansive if and only if T can be expressed as

$$T = \frac{1}{2}(I + S),$$

where $S : H \rightarrow H$ is nonexpansive. Projections are firmly nonexpansive. We call T an *averaged mapping* if T can be expressed as a proper convex combination of the identity map I and a nonexpansive mapping. In particular, firmly nonexpansive mappings are averaged.

Proposition 2.3 (see [23]) *Let $T : H \rightarrow H$ be a given mapping.*

- (i) *T is nonexpansive if and only if the complement $I - T$ is $\frac{1}{2}$ -inverse strongly monotone.*
- (ii) *If T is ν -inverse strongly monotone, then so is γT for all $\gamma > 0$.*
- (iii) *T is averaged if and only if the complement $I - T$ is ν -inverse strongly monotone for some $\nu > 1/2$. Indeed, for $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, T is α -averaged if and only if $I - T$ is $\frac{1}{2\alpha}$ -inverse strongly monotone.*

Proposition 2.4 (see [23, 24]) *Let $S, T, V : H \rightarrow H$.*

- (i) *If $T = (1 - \alpha)S + \alpha V$ for some $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ and if S is averaged and V is nonexpansive, then T is averaged.*
- (ii) *T is firmly nonexpansive if and only if the complement $I - T$ is firmly nonexpansive.*
- (iii) *If $T = (1 - \alpha)S + \alpha V$ for some $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ and if S is firmly nonexpansive and V is nonexpansive, then T is averaged.*
- (iv) *The composition of finitely many averaged mappings is averaged. In particular, if T_1 is α_1 -averaged and T_2 is α_2 -averaged, where $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \in (0, 1)$, then $T_1 T_2$ is $(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 - \alpha_1 \alpha_2)$ -averaged.*
- (v) *If the mappings T_1, \dots, T_N are averaged and have a common fixed point, then*

$$\bigcap_{i=1}^N \text{Fix}(T_i) = \text{Fix}(T_1 \cdots T_N).$$

For solving the equilibrium problem for a bifunction $\Theta : C \times C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, let us consider the following conditions:

- (A1) $\Theta(x, x) = 0$ for all $x \in C$;
- (A2) Θ is monotone, that is, $\Theta(x, y) + \Theta(y, x) \leq 0$ for all $x, y \in C$;
- (A3) for each $x, y, z \in C$, $\lim_{t \downarrow 0} \Theta(tz + (1 - t)x, y) \leq \Theta(x, y)$;
- (A4) for each $x \in C$, $y \mapsto \Theta(x, y)$ is convex and lower semicontinuous;
- (A5) for each $y \in C$, $x \mapsto \Theta(x, y)$ is weakly upper semicontinuous;
- (B1) for each $x \in H$ and $r > 0$, there exist a bounded subset $D_x \subseteq C$ and $y_x \in C$ such that for any $z \in C \setminus D_x$,

$$\Theta(z, y_x) + \varphi(y_x) - \varphi(z) + \frac{1}{r} \langle y_x - z, z - x \rangle < 0;$$

- (B2) C is a bounded set.

Lemma 2.5 (see [14]) *Let C be a nonempty closed convex subset of a real Hilbert space H and $\Theta : C \times C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a bifunction satisfying (A1)-(A4). Let $r > 0$ and $x \in H$. Then there exists $z \in C$ such that*

$$\Theta(z, y) + \frac{1}{r} \langle y - z, z - x \rangle \geq 0, \quad \forall y \in C.$$

Lemma 2.6 (see [15]) *Let C be a nonempty closed convex subset of a real Hilbert space H . Let $\Theta : C \times C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a bifunction satisfying (A1)-(A5) and $\varphi : C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a proper lower semicontinuous and convex function. For $r > 0$ and $x \in H$, define a mapping $T_r : H \rightarrow C$ as follows:*

$$T_r x := \left\{ z \in C : \Theta(z, y) + \varphi(y) - \varphi(z) + \frac{1}{r} \langle y - z, z - x \rangle \geq 0, \forall y \in C \right\}$$

for all $x \in H$. Assume that either (B1) or (B2) holds. Then T_r is a single-valued firmly non-expansive map on H , and $\text{Fix}(T_r) = \text{MEP}(\Theta, \varphi)$ is closed and convex.

Lemma 2.7 (see [25]) *Let $\{a_n\}$ be a sequence of nonnegative real numbers such that*

$$a_{n+1} \leq (1 - s_n)a_n + s_n t_n + \epsilon_n, \quad \forall n \geq 0.$$

Here, $0 < s_n \leq 1$, $0 \leq \epsilon_n$, and $t_n \in \mathbb{R}$ for all $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$, such that

- (i) $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} s_n = +\infty$;
- (ii) *either* $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} t_n \leq 0$ *or* $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} s_n |t_n| < +\infty$;
- (iii) $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \epsilon_n < +\infty$.

Then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$.

Lemma 2.8 (Demiclosedness principle; see [1]) *Let C be a nonempty closed convex subset of a real Hilbert space H and let $T : C \rightarrow C$ be a nonexpansive mapping with $\text{Fix}(T) \neq \emptyset$. If $\{x_n\}$ is a sequence in C converging weakly to x and if $\{(I - T)x_n\}$ converges strongly to y , then $(I - T)x = y$; in particular, if $y = 0$, then $x \in \text{Fix}(T)$.*

Lemma 2.9 (see [12]) *Let $S : H \rightarrow H$ be a nonexpansive mapping and $V : H \rightarrow H$ be a ρ -contraction with $\rho \in [0, 1)$, respectively.*

- (i) $I - S$ is monotone, i.e.,

$$\langle (I - S)x - (I - S)y, x - y \rangle \geq 0, \quad \forall x, y \in H.$$

- (ii) $I - V$ is $(1 - \rho)$ -strongly monotone, i.e.,

$$\langle (I - V)x - (I - V)y, x - y \rangle \geq (1 - \rho)\|x - y\|^2, \quad \forall x, y \in H.$$

Lemma 2.10 ([26]) *Let H be a real Hilbert space. Then, for all $x, y \in H$ and $\lambda \in [0, 1]$,*

$$\|\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y\|^2 = \lambda\|x\|^2 + (1 - \lambda)\|y\|^2 - \lambda(1 - \lambda)\|x - y\|^2.$$

Lemma 2.11 *We have the following inequality in an inner product space X :*

$$\|x + y\|^2 \leq \|x\|^2 + 2\langle y, x + y \rangle, \quad \forall x, y \in X.$$

Notations Let λ be a number in $(0, 1]$ and let $\mu, \kappa, \eta > 0$. Let $F : C \rightarrow H$ be κ -Lipschitzian and η -strongly monotone. Associated with a nonexpansive mapping $T : C \rightarrow C$, we define the mapping $T^\lambda : C \rightarrow H$ by

$$T^\lambda x := (I - \lambda\mu F)Tx, \quad \forall x \in C.$$

Lemma 2.12 (see [27, Lemma 3.1]) *The map T^λ is a contraction provided $\mu < 2\eta/\kappa^2$, that is,*

$$\|T^\lambda x - T^\lambda y\| \leq (1 - \lambda\tau)\|x - y\|, \quad \forall x, y \in C,$$

where $\tau = 1 - \sqrt{1 - \mu(2\eta - \mu\kappa^2)} \in (0, 1]$. In particular, if $T = I$ the identity mapping, then

$$\|(I - \lambda\mu F)x - (I - \lambda\mu F)y\| \leq (1 - \lambda\tau)\|x - y\|, \quad \forall x, y \in C.$$

A set-valued mapping $\tilde{T} : H \rightarrow 2^H$ is called *monotone* if $\langle x - y, f - g \rangle \geq 0$ for all $x, y \in H$, $f \in \tilde{T}x$ and $g \in \tilde{T}y$. A monotone set-valued mapping $\tilde{T} : H \rightarrow 2^H$ is called *maximal* if its graph $\text{Gph}(\tilde{T})$ is not properly contained in the graph of any other monotone set-valued mapping. It is known that a monotone set-valued mapping $\tilde{T} : H \rightarrow 2^H$ is maximal if and only if for $(x, f) \in H \times H$, $\langle x - y, f - g \rangle \geq 0$ for every $(y, g) \in \text{Gph}(\tilde{T})$ implies that $f \in \tilde{T}x$.

Let $A : C \rightarrow H$ be a monotone and Lipschitz continuous mapping and let $N_C v$ be the normal cone to C at $v \in C$, namely

$$N_C v = \{w \in H : \langle v - u, w \rangle \geq 0, \forall u \in C\}.$$

Define

$$\tilde{T}v = \begin{cases} Av + N_C v, & \text{if } v \in C, \\ \emptyset, & \text{if } v \notin C. \end{cases}$$

Lemma 2.13 (see [28]) *Let $A : C \rightarrow H$ be a monotone mapping.*

- (i) \tilde{T} is maximal monotone;
- (ii) $v \in \tilde{T}^{-1}0 \Leftrightarrow v \in \text{VI}(C, A)$.

3 Main results

Let us consider the following three-step iterative scheme with regularization:

$$\begin{cases} \Theta(u_n, y) + \varphi(y) - \varphi(u_n) + \frac{1}{r_n} \langle y - u_n, u_n - x_n \rangle \geq 0, & \forall y \in C, \\ y_n = \theta_n \gamma Sx_n + (I - \theta_n \mu F)P_C(u_n - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n}(u_n)), \\ x_{n+1} = \beta_n \gamma Vy_n + (I - \beta_n \mu F)TP_C(u_n - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n}(u_n)), & \forall n = 0, 1, 2, \dots \end{cases} \quad (3.1)$$

Here,

- $V : H \rightarrow H$ is a ρ -contraction;
- $S : H \rightarrow H$ and $T : C \rightarrow C$ are nonexpansive mappings;
- $F : C \rightarrow H$ is a κ -Lipschitzian and η -strongly monotone mapping;
- $\Theta : C \times C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $\varphi : C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are real-valued functions;
- $\nabla f : C \rightarrow H$ is L -Lipschitz continuous with $0 < \lambda < \frac{2}{L}$;
- $\{r_n\}$ and $\{\alpha_n\}$ are sequences in $(0, +\infty)$ with $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \alpha_n < +\infty$ and $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} r_n > 0$;
- $\{\beta_n\}$ and $\{\theta_n\}$ are sequences in $(0, 1)$;
- $0 < \mu < 2\eta/\kappa^2$ and $0 < \gamma \leq \tau$, where $\tau = 1 - \sqrt{1 - \mu(2\eta - \mu\kappa^2)}$.

Theorem 3.1 *Suppose that $\Theta : C \times C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfies (A1)-(A5) and that (B1) or (B2) holds. Let $\{x_n\}$ be the bounded sequence generated from any given $x_0 \in C$ by (3.1). Assume that*

- (H1) $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \beta_n = +\infty$, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\beta_n} |1 - \frac{\theta_{n-1}}{\theta_n}| = 0$;
 (H2) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\beta_n} |\frac{1}{\theta_n} - \frac{1}{\theta_{n-1}}| = 0$ and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\theta_n} |1 - \frac{\beta_{n-1}}{\beta_n}| = 0$;
 (H3) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \theta_n = 0$, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\alpha_n + \beta_n}{\theta_n} = 0$, and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\theta_n^2}{\beta_n} = 0$;
 (H4) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|\alpha_n - \alpha_{n-1}|}{\beta_n \theta_n} = 0$ and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|r_n - r_{n-1}|}{\beta_n \theta_n} = 0$.

Then we have the following:

- (i) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\|x_{n+1} - x_n\|}{\theta_n} = 0$;
 (ii) $\omega_w(x_n) \subset \text{Fix}(T) \cap \text{MEP}(\Theta, \varphi) \cap \Gamma$;
 (iii) $\omega_w(x_n) \subset \Xi$ if $\|x_n - y_n\| = o(\theta_n)$ held in addition, i.e., $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\|x_n - y_n\|}{\theta_n} = 0$.

Proof First, let us show that $P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f_\alpha)$ is ξ -averaged for each $\lambda \in (0, \frac{2}{\alpha+L})$, where

$$\xi = \frac{2 + \lambda(\alpha + L)}{4} \in (0, 1).$$

The Lipschitz condition implies that the gradient ∇f is $\frac{1}{L}$ -inverse strongly monotone [1], that is,

$$\langle \nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y), x - y \rangle \geq \frac{1}{L} \|\nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y)\|^2.$$

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} & (\alpha + L) \langle \nabla f_\alpha(x) - \nabla f_\alpha(y), x - y \rangle \\ &= (\alpha + L) [\alpha \|x - y\|^2 + \langle \nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y), x - y \rangle] \\ &= \alpha^2 \|x - y\|^2 + \alpha \langle \nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y), x - y \rangle + \alpha L \|x - y\|^2 + L \langle \nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y), x - y \rangle \\ &\geq \alpha^2 \|x - y\|^2 + 2\alpha \langle \nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y), x - y \rangle + \|\nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y)\|^2 \\ &= \|\alpha(x - y) + \nabla f(x) - \nabla f(y)\|^2 \\ &= \|\nabla f_\alpha(x) - \nabla f_\alpha(y)\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, $\nabla f_\alpha = \alpha I + \nabla f$ is $\frac{1}{\alpha+L}$ -inverse strongly monotone. Thus, $\lambda \nabla f_\alpha$ is $\frac{1}{\lambda(\alpha+L)}$ -inverse strongly monotone by Proposition 2.3(ii). By Proposition 2.3(iii) the complement $I - \lambda \nabla f_\alpha$ is $\frac{\lambda(\alpha+L)}{2}$ -averaged. Noting that P_C is $\frac{1}{2}$ -averaged and utilizing Proposition 2.4(iv), we know that for each $\lambda \in (0, \frac{2}{\alpha+L})$, the map $P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f_\alpha)$ is ξ -averaged with

$$\xi = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\lambda(\alpha + L)}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{\lambda(\alpha + L)}{2} = \frac{2 + \lambda(\alpha + L)}{4} \in (0, 1).$$

In particular, $P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f_\alpha)$ is nonexpansive. Furthermore, for $\lambda \in (0, \frac{2}{L})$, utilizing the fact that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2}{\alpha_n + L} = \frac{2}{L}$, we may assume

$$0 < \lambda < \frac{2}{\alpha_n + L}, \quad \forall n \geq 0.$$

Consequently, for each integer $n \geq 0$, $P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})$ is ξ_n -averaged with

$$\xi_n = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\lambda(\alpha_n + L)}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{\lambda(\alpha_n + L)}{2} = \frac{2 + \lambda(\alpha_n + L)}{4} \in (0, 1).$$

This immediately implies that $P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})$ is nonexpansive for all $n \geq 0$.

We divide the proof into several steps.

Step 1. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\|x_{n+1} - x_n\|}{\theta_n} = 0$.

For simplicity, put $\tilde{u}_n = P_C(u_n - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n}(u_n))$. Then $y_n = \theta_n \gamma Sx_n + (I - \theta_n \mu F)\tilde{u}_n$ and $x_{n+1} = \beta_n \gamma Vy_n + (I - \beta_n \mu F)T\tilde{u}_n$ for every $n \geq 0$. We observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{u}_n - \tilde{u}_{n-1}\| &\leq \|P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})u_n - P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})u_{n-1}\| \\ &\quad + \|P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})u_{n-1} - P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_{n-1}})u_{n-1}\| \\ &\leq \|u_n - u_{n-1}\| + \|P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})u_{n-1} - P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_{n-1}})u_{n-1}\| \\ &\leq \|u_n - u_{n-1}\| + \|(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})u_{n-1} - (I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_{n-1}})u_{n-1}\| \\ &= \|u_n - u_{n-1}\| + \|\lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n}(u_{n-1}) - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_{n-1}}(u_{n-1})\| \\ &= \|u_n - u_{n-1}\| + \lambda |\alpha_n - \alpha_{n-1}| \|u_{n-1}\|, \quad \forall n \geq 1. \end{aligned} \quad (3.2)$$

Moreover, from (3.1) we have

$$\begin{cases} y_n = \theta_n \gamma Sx_n + (I - \theta_n \mu F)\tilde{u}_n, \\ y_{n-1} = \theta_{n-1} \gamma Sx_{n-1} + (I - \theta_{n-1} \mu F)\tilde{u}_{n-1}, \quad \forall n \geq 1. \end{cases}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} y_n - y_{n-1} &= \theta_n(\gamma Sx_n - \gamma Sx_{n-1}) + (\theta_n - \theta_{n-1})(\gamma Sx_{n-1} - \mu F\tilde{u}_{n-1}) \\ &\quad + (I - \theta_n \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - (I - \theta_{n-1} \mu F)\tilde{u}_{n-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Utilizing Lemma 2.12 from (3.2) we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} \|y_n - y_{n-1}\| &\leq \theta_n \|\gamma Sx_n - \gamma Sx_{n-1}\| + |\theta_n - \theta_{n-1}| \|\gamma Sx_{n-1} - \mu F\tilde{u}_{n-1}\| \\ &\quad + \|(I - \theta_n \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - (I - \theta_{n-1} \mu F)\tilde{u}_{n-1}\| \\ &\leq \theta_n \gamma \|x_n - x_{n-1}\| + |\theta_n - \theta_{n-1}| \|\gamma Sx_{n-1} - \mu F\tilde{u}_{n-1}\| \\ &\quad + (1 - \theta_n \tau) \|\tilde{u}_n - \tilde{u}_{n-1}\| \\ &\leq \theta_n \gamma \|x_n - x_{n-1}\| + |\theta_n - \theta_{n-1}| \|\gamma Sx_{n-1} - \mu F\tilde{u}_{n-1}\| \\ &\quad + (1 - \theta_n \tau) (\|u_n - u_{n-1}\| + \lambda |\alpha_n - \alpha_{n-1}| \|u_{n-1}\|), \end{aligned} \quad (3.3)$$

where $\tau = 1 - \sqrt{1 - \mu(2\eta - \mu\kappa^2)}$. Taking into consideration that $u_n = T_{r_n}x_n$ and $u_{n-1} = T_{r_{n-1}}x_{n-1}$, we have

$$\Theta(u_n, y) + \varphi(y) - \varphi(u_n) + \frac{1}{r_n} \langle y - u_n, u_n - x_n \rangle \geq 0, \quad \forall y \in C \quad (3.4)$$

and

$$\Theta(u_{n-1}, y) + \varphi(y) - \varphi(u_{n-1}) + \frac{1}{r_{n-1}} \langle y - u_{n-1}, u_{n-1} - x_{n-1} \rangle \geq 0, \quad \forall y \in C. \quad (3.5)$$

Putting $y = u_{n-1}$ in (3.4) and $y = u_n$ in (3.5), we obtain

$$\Theta(u_n, u_{n-1}) + \varphi(u_{n-1}) - \varphi(u_n) + \frac{1}{r_n} \langle u_{n-1} - u_n, u_n - x_n \rangle \geq 0, \quad \forall y \in C$$

and

$$\Theta(u_{n-1}, u_n) + \varphi(u_n) - \varphi(u_{n-1}) + \frac{1}{r_{n-1}} \langle u_n - u_{n-1}, u_{n-1} - x_{n-1} \rangle \geq 0, \quad \forall y \in C.$$

Adding the last two inequalities, by (A2) we get

$$\left\langle u_n - u_{n-1}, \frac{u_{n-1} - x_{n-1}}{r_{n-1}} - \frac{u_n - x_n}{r_n} \right\rangle \geq 0,$$

and hence

$$\left\langle u_n - u_{n-1}, u_{n-1} - u_n + u_n - x_{n-1} - \frac{r_{n-1}}{r_n} (u_n - x_n) \right\rangle \geq 0.$$

Since $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} r_n > 0$, we may assume, without loss of generality, that there exists a positive number c such that $r_n \geq c > 0$ for all $n \geq 0$. Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|u_n - u_{n-1}\|^2 &\leq \left\langle u_n - u_{n-1}, x_n - x_{n-1} + \left(1 - \frac{r_{n-1}}{r_n}\right) (u_n - x_n) \right\rangle \\ &\leq \|u_n - u_{n-1}\| \left[\|x_n - x_{n-1}\| + \left|1 - \frac{r_{n-1}}{r_n}\right| \|u_n - x_n\| \right], \end{aligned}$$

and hence

$$\begin{aligned} \|u_n - u_{n-1}\| &\leq \|x_n - x_{n-1}\| + \left|1 - \frac{r_{n-1}}{r_n}\right| \|u_n - x_n\| \\ &\leq \|x_n - x_{n-1}\| + \frac{M_0}{c} |r_n - r_{n-1}|. \end{aligned} \quad (3.6)$$

Here, $M_0 = \sup\{\|u_n - x_n\| : n \geq 0\} < +\infty$.

Substituting (3.6) into (3.3) we derive

$$\begin{aligned} \|y_n - y_{n-1}\| &\leq \theta_n \gamma \|x_n - x_{n-1}\| + |\theta_n - \theta_{n-1}| \|\gamma Sx_{n-1} - \mu F\tilde{u}_{n-1}\| \\ &\quad + (1 - \theta_n \tau) \left(\|x_n - x_{n-1}\| + \frac{M_0}{c} |r_n - r_{n-1}| + \lambda |\alpha_n - \alpha_{n-1}| \|u_{n-1}\| \right) \\ &\leq (1 - \theta_n (\tau - \gamma)) \|x_n - x_{n-1}\| + |\theta_n - \theta_{n-1}| \|\gamma Sx_{n-1} - \mu F\tilde{u}_{n-1}\| \\ &\quad + \frac{M_0}{c} |r_n - r_{n-1}| + \lambda |\alpha_n - \alpha_{n-1}| \|u_{n-1}\| \\ &\leq \|x_n - x_{n-1}\| + M_1 (|\theta_n - \theta_{n-1}| + |r_n - r_{n-1}| + |\alpha_n - \alpha_{n-1}|). \end{aligned} \quad (3.7)$$

Here, $\|\gamma Sx_n - \mu F\tilde{u}_n\| + \frac{M_0}{c} + \lambda \|u_n\| \leq M_1$ for some $M_1 \geq 0$.

On the other hand, from (3.1) we have

$$\begin{cases} x_{n+1} = \beta_n \gamma V y_n + (I - \beta_n \mu F) T \tilde{u}_n, \\ x_n = \beta_{n-1} \gamma V y_{n-1} + (I - \beta_{n-1} \mu F) T \tilde{u}_{n-1}, \quad \forall n \geq 1. \end{cases}$$

Simple calculations show that

$$\begin{aligned} x_{n+1} - x_n &= (I - \beta_n \mu F) T \tilde{u}_n - (I - \beta_n \mu F) T \tilde{u}_{n-1} \\ &\quad + (\beta_n - \beta_{n-1}) (\gamma V y_{n-1} - \mu F T \tilde{u}_{n-1}) + \beta_n (\gamma V y_n - \gamma V y_{n-1}). \end{aligned}$$

Utilizing Lemma 2.12 from (3.2), (3.6), and (3.7) we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \|x_{n+1} - x_n\| \\
 & \leq \|(I - \beta_n \mu F)T\tilde{u}_n - (I - \beta_n \mu F)T\tilde{u}_{n-1}\| + |\beta_n - \beta_{n-1}| \|\gamma Vy_{n-1} - \mu FT\tilde{u}_{n-1}\| \\
 & \quad + \beta_n \|\gamma Vy_n - \gamma Vy_{n-1}\| \\
 & \leq (1 - \beta_n \tau) \|\tilde{u}_n - \tilde{u}_{n-1}\| + |\beta_n - \beta_{n-1}| \|\gamma Vy_{n-1} - \mu FT\tilde{u}_{n-1}\| + \beta_n \gamma \rho \|y_n - y_{n-1}\| \\
 & \leq (1 - \beta_n \tau) (\|u_n - u_{n-1}\| + \lambda |\alpha_n - \alpha_{n-1}| \|u_{n-1}\|) + |\beta_n - \beta_{n-1}| \|\gamma Vy_{n-1} - \mu FT\tilde{u}_{n-1}\| \\
 & \quad + \beta_n \gamma \rho \|y_n - y_{n-1}\| \\
 & \leq (1 - \beta_n \tau) \left(\|x_n - x_{n-1}\| + \frac{M_0}{c} |r_n - r_{n-1}| + \lambda |\alpha_n - \alpha_{n-1}| \|u_{n-1}\| \right) \\
 & \quad + |\beta_n - \beta_{n-1}| \|\gamma Vy_{n-1} - \mu FT\tilde{u}_{n-1}\| + \beta_n \gamma \rho [\|x_n - x_{n-1}\| + M_1 (|\theta_n - \theta_{n-1}| \\
 & \quad + |r_n - r_{n-1}| + |\alpha_n - \alpha_{n-1}|)] \\
 & \leq (1 - \beta_n \tau) [\|x_n - x_{n-1}\| + M_1 (|r_n - r_{n-1}| + |\alpha_n - \alpha_{n-1}|)] \\
 & \quad + |\beta_n - \beta_{n-1}| \|\gamma Vy_{n-1} - \mu FT\tilde{u}_{n-1}\| \\
 & \quad + \beta_n \gamma \rho [\|x_n - x_{n-1}\| + M_1 (|\theta_n - \theta_{n-1}| + |r_n - r_{n-1}| + |\alpha_n - \alpha_{n-1}|)] \\
 & \leq (1 - \beta_n \tau) \|x_n - x_{n-1}\| + (1 - \beta_n \tau) M_1 (|r_n - r_{n-1}| + |\alpha_n - \alpha_{n-1}|) \\
 & \quad + |\beta_n - \beta_{n-1}| \|\gamma Vy_{n-1} - \mu FT\tilde{u}_{n-1}\| \\
 & \quad + \beta_n \gamma \rho \|x_n - x_{n-1}\| + \beta_n \tau M_1 (|\theta_n - \theta_{n-1}| + |r_n - r_{n-1}| + |\alpha_n - \alpha_{n-1}|) \\
 & \leq (1 - \beta_n (\tau - \gamma \rho)) \|x_n - x_{n-1}\| + |\beta_n - \beta_{n-1}| \|\gamma Vy_{n-1} - \mu FT\tilde{u}_{n-1}\| \\
 & \quad + M_1 (|\theta_n - \theta_{n-1}| + |r_n - r_{n-1}| + |\alpha_n - \alpha_{n-1}|) \\
 & \leq (1 - \beta_n (\tau - \gamma \rho)) \|x_n - x_{n-1}\| + M (|\alpha_n - \alpha_{n-1}| + |\beta_n - \beta_{n-1}| \\
 & \quad + |\theta_n - \theta_{n-1}| + |r_n - r_{n-1}|),
 \end{aligned}$$

where $M_1 + \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu FT\tilde{u}_n\| \leq M$, $\forall n \geq 0$ for some $M \geq 0$. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{\|x_{n+1} - x_n\|}{\theta_n} \\
 & \leq (1 - \beta_n (\tau - \gamma \rho)) \frac{\|x_n - x_{n-1}\|}{\theta_n} \\
 & \quad + M \left(\frac{|\alpha_n - \alpha_{n-1}|}{\theta_n} + \frac{|\beta_n - \beta_{n-1}|}{\theta_n} + \frac{|\theta_n - \theta_{n-1}|}{\theta_n} + \frac{|r_n - r_{n-1}|}{\theta_n} \right) \\
 & = (1 - (\tau - \gamma \rho) \beta_n) \frac{\|x_n - x_{n-1}\|}{\theta_{n-1}} + (1 - (\tau - \gamma \rho) \beta_n) \|x_n - x_{n-1}\| \left(\frac{1}{\theta_n} - \frac{1}{\theta_{n-1}} \right) \\
 & \quad + M \left(\frac{|\alpha_n - \alpha_{n-1}|}{\theta_n} + \frac{|\beta_n - \beta_{n-1}|}{\theta_n} + \frac{|\theta_n - \theta_{n-1}|}{\theta_n} + \frac{|r_n - r_{n-1}|}{\theta_n} \right) \\
 & \leq (1 - (\tau - \gamma \rho) \beta_n) \frac{\|x_n - x_{n-1}\|}{\theta_{n-1}} + (\tau - \gamma \rho) \beta_n \cdot \frac{1}{\tau - \gamma \rho} \left\{ \|x_n - x_{n-1}\| \frac{1}{\beta_n} \left| \frac{1}{\theta_n} - \frac{1}{\theta_{n-1}} \right| \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + M \left(\frac{|\alpha_n - \alpha_{n-1}|}{\beta_n \theta_n} + \frac{|\beta_n - \beta_{n-1}|}{\beta_n \theta_n} + \frac{|\theta_n - \theta_{n-1}|}{\beta_n \theta_n} + \frac{|r_n - r_{n-1}|}{\beta_n \theta_n} \right) \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq (1 - (\tau - \gamma\rho)\beta_n) \frac{\|x_n - x_{n-1}\|}{\theta_{n-1}} + (\tau - \gamma\rho)\beta_n \cdot \frac{\tilde{M}}{\tau - \gamma\rho} \left\{ \frac{1}{\beta_n} \left| \frac{1}{\theta_n} - \frac{1}{\theta_{n-1}} \right| \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{|\alpha_n - \alpha_{n-1}|}{\beta_n\theta_n} + \frac{1}{\theta_n} \left| 1 - \frac{\beta_{n-1}}{\beta_n} \right| + \frac{1}{\beta_n} \left| 1 - \frac{\theta_{n-1}}{\theta_n} \right| + \frac{|r_n - r_{n-1}|}{\beta_n\theta_n} \right\}, \end{aligned} \quad (3.8)$$

where $M + \|x_n - x_{n-1}\| \leq \tilde{M}$, $\forall n \geq 1$ for some $\tilde{M} \geq 0$. From (H1), (H2), and (H4), it follows that $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (\tau - \gamma\rho)\beta_n = +\infty$ and

$$\begin{aligned} &\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\tilde{M}}{\tau - \gamma\rho} \left\{ \frac{1}{\beta_n} \left| \frac{1}{\theta_n} - \frac{1}{\theta_{n-1}} \right| + \frac{|\alpha_n - \alpha_{n-1}|}{\beta_n\theta_n} + \frac{1}{\theta_n} \left| 1 - \frac{\beta_{n-1}}{\beta_n} \right| \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{\beta_n} \left| 1 - \frac{\theta_{n-1}}{\theta_n} \right| + \frac{|r_n - r_{n-1}|}{\beta_n\theta_n} \right\} = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Applying Lemma 2.7 to (3.8), we immediately conclude that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\|x_{n+1} - x_n\|}{\theta_n} = 0.$$

In particular, from (H3) it follows that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|x_{n+1} - x_n\| = 0.$$

Step 2. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|x_n - u_n\| = 0$ and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|y_n - \tilde{u}_n\| = 0$.

By the firm nonexpansivity of T_{r_n} , if $v \in \text{MEP}(\Theta, \varphi) = \text{Fix}(T_{r_n})$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|u_n - v\|^2 &= \|T_{r_n}x_n - T_{r_n}v\|^2 \\ &\leq \langle T_{r_n}x_n - T_{r_n}v, x_n - v \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \|u_n - v\|^2 + \|x_n - v\|^2 - \|T_{r_n}x_n - T_{r_n}v - (x_n - v)\|^2 \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

This immediately yields

$$\|u_n - v\|^2 \leq \|x_n - v\|^2 - \|x_n - u_n\|^2. \quad (3.9)$$

Let $p \in \text{Fix}(T) \cap \text{MEP}(\Theta, \varphi) \cap \Gamma$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{u}_n - p\| &= \|P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})u_n - P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f)p\| \\ &\leq \|P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})u_n - P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})p\| \\ &\quad + \|P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})p - P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f)p\| \\ &\leq \|u_n - p\| + \|P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})p - P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f)p\| \\ &\leq \|u_n - p\| + \lambda \alpha_n \|p\|. \end{aligned} \quad (3.10)$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} y_n - p &= \theta_n \gamma Sx_n - \theta_n \mu Fp + (I - \theta_n \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - (I - \theta_n \mu F)p \\ &= \theta_n (\gamma Sx_n - \mu Fp) + (1 - \theta_n)(\tilde{u}_n - p) + \theta_n [(I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - (I - \mu F)p] \\ &= \theta_n (\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p) + (1 - \theta_n)(\tilde{u}_n - p). \end{aligned}$$

Hence we have

$$y_n - \tilde{u}_n = \theta_n (\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - \tilde{u}_n).$$

By Lemmas 2.10 and 2.12, we have from (3.9) and (3.10) that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|y_n - p\|^2 \\ &= \|\theta_n (\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p) + (1 - \theta_n)(\tilde{u}_n - p)\|^2 \\ &= \theta_n \|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 + (1 - \theta_n)\|\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 \\ &\quad - \theta_n(1 - \theta_n)\|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - \tilde{u}_n\|^2 \\ &= \theta_n \|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 + (1 - \theta_n)\|\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 - \frac{1 - \theta_n}{\theta_n} \|y_n - \tilde{u}_n\|^2 \\ &\leq \theta_n \|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 + \|\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 - \frac{1 - \theta_n}{\theta_n} \|y_n - \tilde{u}_n\|^2. \end{aligned} \quad (3.11)$$

Furthermore, utilizing Lemmas 2.11 and 2.12 we have from (3.9) and (3.10) that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|x_{n+1} - p\|^2 \\ &= \|\beta_n \gamma Vy_n - \beta_n \mu F Tp + (I - \beta_n \mu F) T \tilde{u}_n - (I - \beta_n \mu F) Tp\|^2 \\ &\leq (\|\beta_n \gamma Vy_n - \beta_n \mu F Tp\| + \|(I - \beta_n \mu F) T \tilde{u}_n - (I - \beta_n \mu F) Tp\|)^2 \\ &\leq (\beta_n \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu F p\| + (1 - \beta_n \tau) \|\tilde{u}_n - p\|)^2 \\ &\leq \beta_n \frac{1}{\tau} \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu F p\|^2 + (1 - \beta_n \tau) \|\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 \\ &\leq \beta_n \frac{1}{\tau} [\|\gamma Vy_n - \gamma Vp\|^2 + 2\langle \gamma Vp - \mu F p, \gamma Vy_n - \mu F p \rangle] + (1 - \beta_n \tau) \|\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 \\ &\leq \beta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|y_n - p\|^2 + \beta_n \frac{2}{\tau} \|\gamma Vp - \mu F p\| \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu F p\| + (1 - \beta_n \tau) \|\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 \\ &\leq \beta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \left[\theta_n \|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 + \|\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 - \frac{1 - \theta_n}{\theta_n} \|y_n - \tilde{u}_n\|^2 \right] \\ &\quad + \beta_n \frac{2}{\tau} \|\gamma Vp - \mu F p\| \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu F p\| + (1 - \beta_n \tau) \|\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 \\ &= \left(1 - \beta_n \left(\tau - \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \right) \right) \|\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 + \beta_n \theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 \\ &\quad - \frac{\beta_n \gamma^2 \rho^2 (1 - \theta_n)}{\tau \theta_n} \|y_n - \tilde{u}_n\|^2 + \beta_n \frac{2}{\tau} \|\gamma Vp - \mu F p\| \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu F p\| \\ &\leq \|\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 + \beta_n \theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 \\ &\quad - \frac{\beta_n \gamma^2 \rho^2 (1 - \theta_n)}{\tau \theta_n} \|y_n - \tilde{u}_n\|^2 + \beta_n \frac{2}{\tau} \|\gamma Vp - \mu F p\| \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu F p\| \\ &\leq (\|u_n - p\| + \lambda \alpha_n \|p\|)^2 + \beta_n \theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 \\ &\quad - \frac{\beta_n \gamma^2 \rho^2 (1 - \theta_n)}{\tau \theta_n} \|y_n - \tilde{u}_n\|^2 + \beta_n \frac{2}{\tau} \|\gamma Vp - \mu F p\| \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu F p\| \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\leq \|u_n - p\|^2 + \lambda\alpha_n \|p\| (2\|u_n - p\| + \lambda\alpha_n \|p\|) \\
&\quad + \beta_n \theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 - \frac{\beta_n \gamma^2 \rho^2 (1 - \theta_n)}{\tau \theta_n} \|y_n - \tilde{u}_n\|^2 \\
&\quad + \beta_n \frac{2}{\tau} \|\gamma Vp - \mu Fp\| \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu Fp\| \\
&\leq \|x_n - p\|^2 - \|x_n - u_n\|^2 + \lambda\alpha_n \|p\| (2\|u_n - p\| + \lambda\alpha_n \|p\|) \\
&\quad + \beta_n \theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 - \frac{\beta_n \gamma^2 \rho^2 (1 - \theta_n)}{\tau \theta_n} \|y_n - \tilde{u}_n\|^2 \\
&\quad + \beta_n \frac{2}{\tau} \|\gamma Vp - \mu Fp\| \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu Fp\|. \tag{3.12}
\end{aligned}$$

It turns out therefore that

$$\begin{aligned}
&\|x_n - u_n\|^2 + \frac{\beta_n \gamma^2 \rho^2 (1 - \theta_n)}{\tau \theta_n} \|y_n - \tilde{u}_n\|^2 \\
&\leq \|x_n - p\|^2 - \|x_{n+1} - p\|^2 + \lambda\alpha_n \|p\| (2\|u_n - p\| + \lambda\alpha_n \|p\|) \\
&\quad + \beta_n \theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 \\
&\quad + \beta_n \frac{2}{\tau} \|\gamma Vp - \mu Fp\| \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu Fp\| \\
&\leq (\|x_n - p\| + \|x_{n+1} - p\|) \|x_n - x_{n+1}\| + \lambda\alpha_n \|p\| (2\|u_n - p\| + \lambda\alpha_n \|p\|) \\
&\quad + \beta_n \theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 \\
&\quad + \beta_n \frac{2}{\tau} \|\gamma Vp - \mu Fp\| \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu Fp\|.
\end{aligned}$$

Then it is clear that

$$\begin{aligned}
\|x_n - u_n\|^2 &\leq (\|x_n - p\| + \|x_{n+1} - p\|) \|x_n - x_{n+1}\| + \lambda\alpha_n \|p\| (2\|u_n - p\| + \lambda\alpha_n \|p\|) \\
&\quad + \beta_n \theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 \\
&\quad + \beta_n \frac{2}{\tau} \|\gamma Vp - \mu Fp\| \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu Fp\|.
\end{aligned}$$

Since $\alpha_n \rightarrow 0$, $\beta_n \rightarrow 0$, $\theta_n \rightarrow 0$, and $\|x_{n+1} - x_n\| \rightarrow 0$, we conclude that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|x_n - u_n\| = 0.$$

Furthermore,

$$\begin{aligned}
&\frac{\beta_n \gamma^2 \rho^2 (1 - \theta_n)}{\tau \theta_n} \|y_n - \tilde{u}_n\|^2 \\
&\leq (\|x_n - p\| + \|x_{n+1} - p\|) \|x_n - x_{n+1}\| + \lambda\alpha_n \|p\| (2\|u_n - p\| + \lambda\alpha_n \|p\|) \\
&\quad + \beta_n \theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 + \beta_n \frac{2}{\tau} \|\gamma Vp - \mu Fp\| \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu Fp\|.
\end{aligned}$$

This yields

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2 (1 - \theta_n)}{\tau} \|y_n - \tilde{u}_n\|^2 \\ & \leq (\|x_n - p\| + \|x_{n+1} - p\|) \frac{\theta_n}{\beta_n} \|x_n - x_{n+1}\| + \frac{\alpha_n \theta_n}{\beta_n} \lambda \|p\| (2\|u_n - p\| + \lambda \alpha_n \|p\|) \\ & \quad + \theta_n^2 \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 + \theta_n \frac{2}{\tau} \|\gamma Vp - \mu Fp\| \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu Fp\|. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\frac{\|x_{n+1} - x_n\|}{\theta_n} \rightarrow 0$, $\frac{\alpha_n + \beta_n}{\theta_n} \rightarrow 0$, and $\frac{\theta_n^2}{\beta_n} \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\theta_n}{\beta_n} \|x_n - x_{n+1}\| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\|x_n - x_{n+1}\|}{\theta_n} \cdot \frac{\theta_n^2}{\beta_n} = 0$$

and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\alpha_n \theta_n}{\beta_n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\alpha_n}{\theta_n} \cdot \frac{\theta_n^2}{\beta_n} = 0.$$

Therefore, from the last inequality we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|y_n - \tilde{u}_n\| = 0.$$

Step 3. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|u_n - \tilde{u}_n\| = 0$ and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|x_n - y_n\| = 0$.

Let $p \in \text{Fix}(T) \cap \text{Fix}(\Gamma) \cap \mathcal{E}$. Utilizing Lemmas 2.6 and 2.11 we have from (3.12) that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|x_{n+1} - p\|^2 \\ & \leq \|\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 + \beta_n \theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 \\ & \quad - \frac{\beta_n \gamma^2 \rho^2 (1 - \theta_n)}{\tau \theta_n} \|y_n - \tilde{u}_n\|^2 + \beta_n \frac{2}{\tau} \|\gamma Vp - \mu Fp\| \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu Fp\| \\ & \leq \|P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})u_n - P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f)p\|^2 + \beta_n \theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 \\ & \quad + \beta_n \frac{2}{\tau} \|\gamma Vp - \mu Fp\| \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu Fp\| \\ & \leq \|(I - \lambda \nabla f)u_n - (I - \lambda \nabla f)p - \lambda \alpha_n u_n\|^2 + \beta_n \theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 \\ & \quad + \beta_n \frac{2}{\tau} \|\gamma Vp - \mu Fp\| \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu Fp\| \\ & \leq \|(I - \lambda \nabla f)u_n - (I - \lambda \nabla f)p\|^2 - 2\lambda \alpha_n \langle u_n, (I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})u_n - (I - \lambda \nabla f)p \rangle \\ & \quad + \beta_n \theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 + \beta_n \frac{2}{\tau} \|\gamma Vp - \mu Fp\| \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu Fp\| \\ & \leq \|u_n - p\|^2 + \lambda \left(\lambda - \frac{2}{L} \right) \|\nabla f(u_n) - \nabla f(p)\|^2 \\ & \quad + 2\lambda \alpha_n \|u_n\| \|(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})u_n - (I - \lambda \nabla f)p\| \\ & \quad + \beta_n \theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 + \beta_n \frac{2}{\tau} \|\gamma Vp - \mu Fp\| \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu Fp\| \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq \|x_n - p\|^2 + \lambda \left(\lambda - \frac{2}{L} \right) \|\nabla f(u_n) - \nabla f(p)\|^2 \\ &\quad + 2\lambda\alpha_n \|u_n\| \|(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})u_n - (I - \lambda \nabla f)p\| \\ &\quad + \beta_n \theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 + \beta_n \frac{2}{\tau} \|\gamma Vp - \mu Fp\| \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu Fp\|. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} &\lambda \left(\frac{2}{L} - \lambda \right) \|\nabla f(u_n) - \nabla f(p)\|^2 \\ &\leq \|x_n - p\|^2 - \|x_{n+1} - p\|^2 + 2\lambda\alpha_n \|u_n\| \|(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})u_n - (I - \lambda \nabla f)p\| \\ &\quad + \beta_n \theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 + \beta_n \frac{2}{\tau} \|\gamma Vp - \mu Fp\| \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu Fp\| \\ &\leq (\|x_n - p\| + \|x_{n+1} - p\|) \|x_n - x_{n+1}\| + 2\lambda\alpha_n \|u_n\| \|(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})u_n - (I - \lambda \nabla f)p\| \\ &\quad + \beta_n \theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 + \beta_n \frac{2}{\tau} \|\gamma Vp - \mu Fp\| \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu Fp\|. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\alpha_n \rightarrow 0$, $\beta_n \rightarrow 0$, $\theta_n \rightarrow 0$, and $\|x_{n+1} - x_n\| \rightarrow 0$, it follows from $0 < \lambda < \frac{2}{L}$ that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|\nabla f(u_n) - \nabla f(p)\| = 0$, and hence

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|\nabla f_{\alpha_n}(u_n) - \nabla f(p)\| = 0.$$

Furthermore, from the firm nonexpansiveness of P_C we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 &= \|P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})u_n - P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f)p\|^2 \\ &\leq \langle (I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})u_n - (I - \lambda \nabla f)p, \tilde{u}_n - p \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \{ \|(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})u_n - (I - \lambda \nabla f)p\|^2 + \|\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 \\ &\quad - \|(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})u_n - (I - \lambda \nabla f)p - (\tilde{u}_n - p)\|^2 \} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \{ \|u_n - p\|^2 + 2\lambda \|\nabla f_{\alpha_n}(u_n) - \nabla f(p)\| \|(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})u_n - (I - \lambda \nabla f)p\| \\ &\quad + \|\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 - \|u_n - \tilde{u}_n\|^2 + 2\lambda \langle u_n - \tilde{u}_n, \nabla f_{\alpha_n}(u_n) - \nabla f(p) \rangle \\ &\quad - \lambda^2 \|\nabla f_{\alpha_n}(u_n) - \nabla f(p)\|^2 \}. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned} &\|\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 \\ &\leq \|u_n - p\|^2 - \|u_n - \tilde{u}_n\|^2 + 2\lambda \|\nabla f_{\alpha_n}(u_n) - \nabla f(p)\| \|(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})u_n - (I - \lambda \nabla f)p\| \\ &\quad + 2\lambda \langle u_n - \tilde{u}_n, \nabla f_{\alpha_n}(u_n) - \nabla f(p) \rangle - \lambda^2 \|\nabla f_{\alpha_n}(u_n) - \nabla f(p)\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, from (3.12) we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\|x_{n+1} - p\|^2 \\ &\leq \|\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 + \beta_n \theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& -\frac{\beta_n \gamma^2 \rho^2 (1-\theta_n)}{\tau \theta_n} \|y_n - \tilde{u}_n\|^2 + \beta_n \frac{2}{\tau} \|\gamma Vp - \mu Fp\| \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu Fp\| \\
& \leq \|u_n - p\|^2 - \|u_n - \tilde{u}_n\|^2 + 2\lambda \|\nabla f_{\alpha_n}(u_n) - \nabla f(p)\| \|(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})u_n - (I - \lambda \nabla f)p\| \\
& \quad + 2\lambda \langle u_n - \tilde{u}_n, \nabla f_{\alpha_n}(u_n) - \nabla f(p) \rangle - \lambda^2 \|\nabla f_{\alpha_n}(u_n) - \nabla f(p)\|^2 \\
& \quad + \beta_n \theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 - \frac{\beta_n \gamma^2 \rho^2 (1-\theta_n)}{\tau \theta_n} \|y_n - \tilde{u}_n\|^2 \\
& \quad + \beta_n \frac{2}{\tau} \|\gamma Vp - \mu Fp\| \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu Fp\| \\
& \leq \|x_n - p\|^2 - \|u_n - \tilde{u}_n\|^2 + 2\lambda \|\nabla f_{\alpha_n}(u_n) - \nabla f(p)\| \|(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})u_n - (I - \lambda \nabla f)p\| \\
& \quad + 2\lambda \|u_n - \tilde{u}_n\| \|\nabla f_{\alpha_n}(u_n) - \nabla f(p)\| + \beta_n \theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 \\
& \quad + \beta_n \frac{2}{\tau} \|\gamma Vp - \mu Fp\| \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu Fp\|.
\end{aligned}$$

This implies that

$$\begin{aligned}
& \|u_n - \tilde{u}_n\|^2 \\
& \leq \|x_n - p\|^2 - \|x_{n+1} - p\|^2 + 2\lambda \|\nabla f_{\alpha_n}(u_n) - \nabla f(p)\| \|(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})u_n - (I - \lambda \nabla f)p\| \\
& \quad + 2\lambda \|u_n - \tilde{u}_n\| \|\nabla f_{\alpha_n}(u_n) - \nabla f(p)\| + \beta_n \theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 \\
& \quad + \beta_n \frac{2}{\tau} \|\gamma Vp - \mu Fp\| \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu Fp\| \\
& \leq (\|x_n - p\| + \|x_{n+1} - p\|) \|x_n - x_{n+1}\| \\
& \quad + 2\lambda \|\nabla f_{\alpha_n}(u_n) - \nabla f(p)\| \|(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})u_n - (I - \lambda \nabla f)p\| \\
& \quad + 2\lambda \|u_n - \tilde{u}_n\| \|\nabla f_{\alpha_n}(u_n) - \nabla f(p)\| + \beta_n \theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 \\
& \quad + \beta_n \frac{2}{\tau} \|\gamma Vp - \mu Fp\| \|\gamma Vy_n - \mu Fp\|.
\end{aligned}$$

Since $\theta_n \rightarrow 0$, $\beta_n \rightarrow 0$, $\|x_n - x_{n+1}\| \rightarrow 0$, and $\|\nabla f_{\alpha_n}(u_n) - \nabla f(p)\| \rightarrow 0$, it follows that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|u_n - \tilde{u}_n\| = 0.$$

This, together with $\|x_n - u_n\| \rightarrow 0$ and $\|y_n - \tilde{u}_n\| \rightarrow 0$ (due to Step 2), implies that

$$\|x_n - y_n\| \leq \|x_n - u_n\| + \|u_n - \tilde{u}_n\| + \|\tilde{u}_n - y_n\| \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty,$$

and thus

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|x_n - y_n\| = 0.$$

Step 4. $\omega_w(x_n) \subset \text{Fix}(T) \cap \text{MEP}(\Theta, \varphi) \cap \Gamma$; moreover, if $\|x_n - y_n\| = o(\theta_n)$ in addition, then $\omega_w(x_n) \subset \Xi$.

Let $p^* \in \omega_w(x_n)$. Then there exists a subsequence $\{x_{n_i}\}$ of $\{x_n\}$ such that $x_{n_i} \rightarrow p^*$. Since

$$\begin{aligned} x_{n+1} - \tilde{u}_n &= \beta_n \gamma S y_n + (I - \beta_n \mu F) T \tilde{u}_n - \tilde{u}_n \\ &= \beta_n (\gamma S y_n - \mu F T \tilde{u}_n) + T \tilde{u}_n - \tilde{u}_n, \end{aligned}$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|T \tilde{u}_n - \tilde{u}_n\| &= \|x_{n+1} - \tilde{u}_n - \beta_n (\gamma S y_n - \mu F T \tilde{u}_n)\| \\ &\leq \|x_{n+1} - \tilde{u}_n\| + \beta_n \|\gamma S y_n - \mu F T \tilde{u}_n\| \\ &\leq \|x_{n+1} - x_n\| + \|x_n - u_n\| + \|u_n - \tilde{u}_n\| + \beta_n \|\gamma S y_n - \mu F T \tilde{u}_n\|. \end{aligned}$$

Hence from $\|x_{n+1} - x_n\| \rightarrow 0$, $\|x_n - u_n\| \rightarrow 0$, $\|u_n - \tilde{u}_n\| \rightarrow 0$, and $\beta_n \rightarrow 0$, we get

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|T \tilde{u}_n - \tilde{u}_n\| = 0.$$

Since $\|x_n - u_n\| \rightarrow 0$ and $\|u_n - \tilde{u}_n\| \rightarrow 0$, we have $\tilde{u}_{n_i} \rightarrow p^*$. Utilizing Lemma 2.8 we derive $p^* \in \text{Fix}(T)$.

Let us show that $p^* \in \text{MEP}(\Theta, \varphi)$. As a matter of fact, since $u_n = T_{r_n} x_n$, for any $y \in C$ we have

$$\Theta(u_n, y) + \varphi(y) - \varphi(u_n) + \frac{1}{r_n} \langle y - u_n, u_n - x_n \rangle \geq 0.$$

It follows from (A2) that

$$\varphi(y) - \varphi(u_n) + \frac{1}{r_n} \langle y - u_n, u_n - x_n \rangle \geq \Theta(y, u_n).$$

Replacing n by n_i , we have

$$\varphi(y) - \varphi(u_{n_i}) + \frac{1}{r_{n_i}} \langle y - u_{n_i}, u_{n_i} - x_{n_i} \rangle \geq \Theta(y, u_{n_i}).$$

Since $\frac{u_{n_i} - x_{n_i}}{r_{n_i}} \rightarrow 0$ and $u_{n_i} \rightarrow p^*$, it follows from (A4) that

$$0 \geq -\varphi(y) + \varphi(p^*) + \Theta(y, p^*), \quad \forall y \in C.$$

Put $z_t = ty + (1-t)p^*$ for all $t \in (0, 1]$ and $y \in C$. We have $z_t \in C$ and

$$0 \geq -\varphi(z_t) + \varphi(p^*) + \Theta(z_t, p^*). \quad (3.13)$$

Utilizing (A1), (A4), and (3.13), we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \Theta(z_t, z_t) + \varphi(z_t) - \varphi(z_t) \\ &\leq t\Theta(z_t, y) + (1-t)\Theta(z_t, p^*) + t\varphi(y) + (1-t)\varphi(p^*) - \varphi(z_t) \\ &\leq t(\Theta(z_t, y) + \varphi(y) - \varphi(z_t)) + (1-t)(\Theta(z_t, p^*) + \varphi(p^*) - \varphi(z_t)) \\ &\leq t(\Theta(z_t, y) + \varphi(y) - \varphi(z_t)), \end{aligned}$$

and hence

$$0 \leq \Theta(z_t, y) + \varphi(y) - \varphi(z_t). \quad (3.14)$$

Letting $t \rightarrow 0$ in (3.14) and utilizing (A3), we get, for each $y \in C$,

$$0 \leq \Theta(p^*, y) + \varphi(y) - \varphi(p^*).$$

Hence, $p^* \in \text{MEP}(\Theta, \varphi)$.

Let us show that $p^* \in \Gamma$. From $\|x_n - u_n\| \rightarrow 0$ and $\|u_n - \tilde{u}_n\| \rightarrow 0$, we know that $u_{n_i} \rightharpoonup p^*$ and $\tilde{u}_{n_i} \rightharpoonup p^*$. Define

$$\tilde{T}v = \begin{cases} \nabla f(v) + N_C v, & \text{if } v \in C, \\ \emptyset, & \text{if } v \notin C, \end{cases}$$

where

$$N_C v = \{w \in H : \langle v - u, w \rangle \geq 0, \forall u \in C\}.$$

Then \tilde{T} is maximal monotone and $0 \in \tilde{T}v$ if and only if $v \in \text{VI}(C, \nabla f)$; see [28] for more details. Let $(v, w) \in \text{Gph}(\tilde{T})$. Then we have

$$w \in \tilde{T}v = \nabla f(v) + N_C v$$

and hence,

$$w - \nabla f(v) \in N_C v.$$

Therefore,

$$\langle v - u, w - \nabla f(v) \rangle \geq 0, \quad \forall u \in C.$$

On the other hand, from

$$\tilde{u}_n = P_C(u_n - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n}(u_n)) \quad \text{and} \quad v \in C,$$

we have

$$\langle u_n - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n}(u_n) - \tilde{u}_n, \tilde{u}_n - v \rangle \geq 0,$$

and hence

$$\left\langle v - \tilde{u}_n, \frac{\tilde{u}_n - u_n}{\lambda} + \nabla f_{\alpha_n}(u_n) \right\rangle \geq 0.$$

Therefore, from

$$w - \nabla f(v) \in N_C(v) \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{u}_{n_i} \in C,$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle v - \tilde{u}_{n_i}, w \rangle &\geq \langle v - \tilde{u}_{n_i}, \nabla f(v) \rangle \\
 &\geq \langle v - \tilde{u}_{n_i}, \nabla f(v) \rangle - \left\langle v - \tilde{u}_{n_i}, \frac{\tilde{u}_{n_i} - u_{n_i}}{\lambda} + \nabla f_{\alpha_{n_i}}(u_{n_i}) \right\rangle \\
 &= \langle v - \tilde{u}_{n_i}, \nabla f(v) \rangle - \left\langle v - \tilde{u}_{n_i}, \frac{\tilde{u}_{n_i} - u_{n_i}}{\lambda} + \nabla f(u_{n_i}) \right\rangle - \alpha_{n_i} \langle v - \tilde{u}_{n_i}, u_{n_i} \rangle \\
 &= \langle v - \tilde{u}_{n_i}, \nabla f(v) - \nabla f(\tilde{u}_{n_i}) \rangle + \langle v - \tilde{u}_{n_i}, \nabla f(\tilde{u}_{n_i}) - \nabla f(u_{n_i}) \rangle \\
 &\quad - \left\langle v - \tilde{u}_{n_i}, \frac{\tilde{u}_{n_i} - u_{n_i}}{\lambda} \right\rangle - \alpha_{n_i} \langle v - \tilde{u}_{n_i}, u_{n_i} \rangle \\
 &\geq \langle v - \tilde{u}_{n_i}, \nabla f(\tilde{u}_{n_i}) - \nabla f(u_{n_i}) \rangle - \left\langle v - \tilde{u}_{n_i}, \frac{\tilde{u}_{n_i} - u_{n_i}}{\lambda} \right\rangle - \alpha_{n_i} \langle v - \tilde{u}_{n_i}, u_{n_i} \rangle.
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence, we obtain

$$\langle v - p^*, w \rangle \geq 0 \quad \text{as } i \rightarrow \infty.$$

Since \tilde{T} is maximal monotone, we have $p^* \in \tilde{T}^{-1}0$, and hence, $p^* \in \text{VI}(C, \nabla f)$, which leads to $p^* \in \Gamma$. Consequently, $p^* \in \text{Fix}(T) \cap \text{MEP}(\Theta, \varphi) \cap \Gamma$. This shows that $\omega_w(x_n) \subset \text{Fix}(T) \cap \text{MEP}(\Theta, \varphi) \cap \Gamma$.

Utilizing Lemmas 2.11 and 2.12, we have for every $p \in \text{Fix}(T) \cap \text{MEP}(\Theta, \varphi) \cap \Gamma$,

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\|y_n - p\|^2 \\
 &= \|\theta_n \gamma Sx_n + (I - \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 \\
 &= \|\theta_n(\gamma Sp - \mu Fp) + \theta_n(\gamma Sx_n - \gamma Sp) + (I - \theta_n \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - (I - \theta_n \mu F)p\|^2 \\
 &\leq \|\theta_n(\gamma Sx_n - \gamma Sp) + (I - \theta_n \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - (I - \theta_n \mu F)p\|^2 + 2\theta_n \langle \gamma Sp - \mu Fp, y_n - p \rangle \\
 &\leq [\|\theta_n(\gamma Sx_n - \gamma Sp)\| + \|(I - \theta_n \mu F)\tilde{u}_n - (I - \theta_n \mu F)p\|]^2 + 2\theta_n \langle \gamma Sp - \mu Fp, y_n - p \rangle \\
 &\leq [\theta_n \gamma \|x_n - p\| + (1 - \theta_n \tau)\|\tilde{u}_n - p\|]^2 + 2\theta_n \langle \gamma Sp - \mu Fp, y_n - p \rangle \\
 &\leq [\theta_n \gamma \|x_n - p\| + (1 - \theta_n \tau)(\|u_n - p\| + \lambda \alpha_n \|p\|)]^2 + 2\theta_n \langle \gamma Sp - \mu Fp, y_n - p \rangle \\
 &\leq [\theta_n \gamma \|x_n - p\| + (1 - \theta_n \tau)(\|x_n - p\| + \lambda \alpha_n \|p\|)]^2 + 2\theta_n \langle \gamma Sp - \mu Fp, y_n - p \rangle \\
 &\leq [(1 - \theta_n(\tau - \gamma))\|x_n - p\| + \lambda \alpha_n \|p\|]^2 + 2\theta_n \langle \gamma Sp - \mu Fp, y_n - p \rangle \\
 &\leq (\|x_n - p\| + \lambda \alpha_n \|p\|)^2 + 2\theta_n \langle \gamma Sp - \mu Fp, y_n - p \rangle. \tag{3.15}
 \end{aligned}$$

Suppose now that $\|x_n - y_n\| = o(\theta_n)$ in addition. It follows from (3.15) that

$$\begin{aligned}
 &2\langle \gamma Sp - \mu Fp, y_n - p \rangle \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{\theta_n} [(\|x_n - p\| + \lambda \alpha_n \|p\|)^2 - \|y_n - p\|^2] \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{\theta_n} (\|x_n - p\| + \lambda \alpha_n \|p\| + \|y_n - p\|)(\|x_n - p\| + \lambda \alpha_n \|p\| - \|y_n - p\|) \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{\theta_n} (\|x_n - p\| + \lambda \alpha_n \|p\| + \|y_n - p\|)(\|x_n - y_n\| + \lambda \alpha_n \|p\|).
 \end{aligned}$$

This, together with $\frac{\alpha_n}{\theta_n} \rightarrow 0$ and $\frac{\|x_n - y_n\|}{\theta_n} \rightarrow 0$, leads to

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle \gamma Sp - \mu Fp, y_n - p \rangle \leq 0.$$

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle \gamma Sp - \mu Fp, x_n - p \rangle \\ &= \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\langle \gamma Sp - \mu Fp, x_n - y_n \rangle + \langle \gamma Sp - \mu Fp, y_n - p \rangle) \\ &= \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle \gamma Sp - \mu Fp, y_n - p \rangle \leq 0. \end{aligned}$$

So, it follows from $x_{n_i} \rightarrow p^*$ that

$$\langle \gamma Sp - \mu Fp, p^* - p \rangle \leq 0, \quad \forall p \in \text{Fix}(T) \cap \text{MEP}(\Theta, \varphi) \cap \Gamma.$$

Note also that $0 < \gamma \leq \tau$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \mu\eta \geq \tau &\Leftrightarrow \mu\eta \geq 1 - \sqrt{1 - \mu(2\eta - \mu\kappa^2)} \\ &\Leftrightarrow \sqrt{1 - \mu(2\eta - \mu\kappa^2)} \geq 1 - \mu\eta \\ &\Leftrightarrow 1 - 2\mu\eta + \mu^2\kappa^2 \geq 1 - 2\mu\eta + \mu^2\eta^2 \\ &\Leftrightarrow \kappa^2 \geq \eta^2 \\ &\Leftrightarrow \kappa \geq \eta. \end{aligned}$$

It is clear that

$$\langle (\mu F - \gamma S)x - (\mu F - \gamma S)y, x - y \rangle \geq (\mu\eta - \gamma)\|x - y\|^2, \quad \forall x, y \in H.$$

Hence, it follows from $0 < \gamma \leq \tau \leq \mu\eta$ that $\mu F - \gamma S$ is monotone. Since $p^* \in \omega_w(x_n) \subset \text{Fix}(T) \cap \text{MEP}(\Theta, \varphi) \cap \Gamma$, by Minty's lemma [1] we have

$$\langle \gamma Sp^* - \mu Fp^*, p - p^* \rangle \leq 0, \quad \forall p \in \text{Fix}(T) \cap \text{MEP}(\Theta, \varphi) \cap \Gamma;$$

that is, $p^* \in \mathcal{E}$. This shows that $\omega_w(x_n) \subset \mathcal{E}$. □

Theorem 3.2 *Assuming the conditions in Theorem 3.1. We have:*

- (i) $\{x_n\}$ and $\{y_n\}$ both converge strongly to an element $x^* \in \text{Fix}(T) \cap \text{MEP}(\Theta, \varphi) \cap \Gamma$, which is a unique solution of the variational inequality

$$\langle \gamma Vx^* - \mu Fx^*, x - x^* \rangle \leq 0, \quad \forall x \in \text{Fix}(T) \cap \text{MEP}(\Theta, \varphi) \cap \Gamma.$$

- (ii) $\{x_n\}$ and $\{y_n\}$ both converge strongly to a unique solution of THVI (1.6) if $\|x_n - y_n\| = o(\theta_n)$ in addition.

Proof Utilizing Lemmas 2.11 and 2.12 we get from (3.15)

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \|x_{n+1} - p\|^2 \\
 &= \|\beta_n \gamma V y_n + (I - \mu F) T \tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 \\
 &= \|\beta_n (\gamma V p - \mu F p) + \beta_n (\gamma V y_n - \gamma V p) + (I - \beta_n \mu F) T \tilde{u}_n - (I - \beta_n \mu F) T p\|^2 \\
 &\leq \|\beta_n (\gamma V y_n - \gamma V p) + (I - \theta_n \mu F) T \tilde{u}_n - (I - \theta_n \mu F) T p\|^2 \\
 &\quad + 2\beta_n \langle \gamma V p - \mu F p, x_{n+1} - p \rangle \\
 &\leq [\|\beta_n (\gamma V y_n - \gamma V p)\| + \|(I - \beta_n \mu F) T \tilde{u}_n - (I - \theta_n \mu F) T p\|]^2 \\
 &\quad + 2\beta_n \langle \gamma V p - \mu F p, x_{n+1} - p \rangle \\
 &\leq [\beta_n \gamma \rho \|y_n - p\| + (1 - \beta_n \tau) \|\tilde{u}_n - p\|]^2 + 2\beta_n \langle \gamma V p - \mu F p, x_{n+1} - p \rangle \\
 &\leq \beta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|y_n - p\|^2 + (1 - \beta_n \tau) \|\tilde{u}_n - p\|^2 + 2\beta_n \langle \gamma V p - \mu F p, x_{n+1} - p \rangle \\
 &\leq \beta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} [(\|x_n - p\| + \lambda \alpha_n \|p\|)^2 + 2\theta_n \langle \gamma S p - \mu F p, y_n - p \rangle] \\
 &\quad + (1 - \beta_n \tau) (\|x_n - p\| + \lambda \alpha_n \|p\|)^2 + 2\beta_n \langle \gamma V p - \mu F p, x_{n+1} - p \rangle \\
 &= \left(1 - \beta_n \frac{\tau^2 - \gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau}\right) (\|x_n - p\| + \lambda \alpha_n \|p\|)^2 + 2\beta_n \theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \langle \gamma S p - \mu F p, y_n - p \rangle \\
 &\quad + 2\beta_n \langle \gamma V p - \mu F p, x_{n+1} - p \rangle, \tag{3.16}
 \end{aligned}$$

where $\tau = 1 - \sqrt{1 - \mu(2\eta - \mu\kappa^2)}$.

Note that $\mu F - \gamma V : H \rightarrow H$ is $(\mu\kappa + \gamma\rho)$ -Lipschitzian and $(\mu\eta - \gamma\rho)$ -strongly monotone, namely

$$\|(\mu F - \gamma V)x - (\mu F - \gamma V)y\| \leq (\mu\kappa + \gamma\rho)\|x - y\|, \quad \forall x, y \in H$$

and

$$\langle (\mu F - \gamma V)x - (\mu F - \gamma V)y, x - y \rangle \geq (\mu\eta - \gamma\rho)\|x - y\|^2, \quad \forall x, y \in H.$$

Hence there exists a unique solution $x^* \in \text{Fix}(T) \cap \text{MEP}(\Theta, \varphi) \cap \Gamma$ of the variational inequality problem

$$\langle \gamma V x^* - \mu F x^*, x - x^* \rangle \leq 0, \quad \forall x \in \text{Fix}(T) \cap \text{MEP}(\Theta, \varphi) \cap \Gamma. \tag{3.17}$$

Since the sequence $\{x_n\}$ is bounded, there exists a subsequence $\{x_{n_i}\}$ of $\{x_n\}$ such that

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle \gamma V x^* - \mu F x^*, x_n - x^* \rangle = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \langle \gamma V x^* - \mu F x^*, x_{n_i} - x^* \rangle. \tag{3.18}$$

Also, since H is reflexive and $\{x_n\}$ is bounded, without loss of generality we may assume that $x_{n_i} \rightharpoonup \bar{x} \in \text{Fix}(T) \cap \text{MEP}(\Theta, \varphi) \cap \Gamma$ (due to Theorem 3.1(i)). Taking into consideration

that x^* is the unique solution of VIP (3.17), we obtain from (3.18)

$$\begin{aligned} & \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle \gamma Vx^* - \mu Fx^*, x_{n+1} - x^* \rangle \\ &= \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\langle \gamma Vx^* - \mu Fx^*, x_n - x^* \rangle + \langle \gamma Vx^* - \mu Fx^*, x_{n+1} - x_n \rangle) \\ &= \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle \gamma Vx^* - \mu Fx^*, x_n - x^* \rangle = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \langle \gamma Vx^* - \mu Fx^*, x_{n_i} - x^* \rangle \\ &= \langle \gamma Vx^* - \mu Fx^*, \bar{x} - x^* \rangle \leq 0. \end{aligned} \quad (3.19)$$

Putting $p = x^*$, from (3.16) we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|x_{n+1} - x^*\|^2 \\ & \leq \left(1 - \beta_n \frac{\tau^2 - \gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau}\right) (\|x_n - x^*\| + \lambda \alpha_n \|x^*\|)^2 \\ & \quad + 2\beta_n \theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx^* - \mu Fx^*\| \|y_n - x^*\| + 2\beta_n \langle \gamma Vx^* - \mu Fx^*, x_{n+1} - x^* \rangle \\ & \leq \left(1 - \beta_n \frac{\tau^2 - \gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau}\right) \|x_n - x^*\|^2 + \lambda \alpha_n \|x^*\| (2\|x_n - x^*\| + \lambda \alpha_n \|x^*\|) \\ & \quad + 2\beta_n \theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx^* - \mu Fx^*\| \|y_n - x^*\| + 2\beta_n \langle \gamma Vx^* - \mu Fx^*, x_{n+1} - x^* \rangle \\ & = \left(1 - \beta_n \frac{\tau^2 - \gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau}\right) \|x_n - x^*\|^2 + \beta_n \frac{\tau^2 - \gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \\ & \quad \cdot \frac{\tau}{\tau^2 - \gamma^2 \rho^2} \left\{ 2\theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx^* - \mu Fx^*\| \|y_n - x^*\| \right. \\ & \quad \left. + 2\langle \gamma Vx^* - \mu Fx^*, x_{n+1} - x^* \rangle \right\} + \alpha_n \lambda \|x^*\| (2\|x_n - x^*\| + \lambda \alpha_n \|x^*\|). \end{aligned} \quad (3.20)$$

Since $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \beta_n = +\infty$, $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \alpha_n < +\infty$, and $\theta_n \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, it follows from (3.19) that $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \beta_n \frac{\tau^2 - \gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} = +\infty$, $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \alpha_n \lambda \|x^*\| (2\|x_n - x^*\| + \lambda \alpha_n \|x^*\|) < +\infty$, and

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\tau}{\tau^2 - \gamma^2 \rho^2} \left\{ 2\theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx^* - \mu Fx^*\| \|y_n - x^*\| + 2\langle \gamma Vx^* - \mu Fx^*, x_{n+1} - x^* \rangle \right\} \leq 0.$$

Applying Lemma 2.7 to (3.20), we get

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|x_n - x^*\| = 0.$$

This, together with $\|x_n - y_n\| \rightarrow 0$, implies that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|y_n - x^*\| = 0.$$

From now on, we suppose that $\|x_n - y_n\| = o(\theta_n)$. Then by Theorem 3.1(ii) we know that $\omega_w(x_n) \subset \mathcal{E}$. Since $\mu F - \gamma V : H \rightarrow H$ is $(\mu\kappa + \gamma\rho)$ -Lipschitzian and $(\mu\eta - \gamma\rho)$ -strongly monotone, there exists a unique solution $x^* \in \mathcal{E}$ of the variational inequality problem

$$\langle \gamma Vx^* - \mu Fx^*, x - x^* \rangle \leq 0, \quad \forall x \in \mathcal{E}. \quad (3.21)$$

Since the sequence $\{x_n\}$ is bounded, there exists a subsequence $\{x_{n_i}\}$ of $\{x_n\}$ such that

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle \gamma Vx^* - \mu Fx^*, x_n - x^* \rangle = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \langle \gamma Vx^* - \mu Fx^*, x_{n_i} - x^* \rangle. \quad (3.22)$$

Again, since H is reflexive and $\{x_n\}$ is bounded, without loss of generality we may assume that $x_{n_i} \rightharpoonup \bar{x} \in \Xi$ (due to Theorem 3.1(ii)). Taking into account that x^* is the unique solution of VIP (3.21), we deduce from (3.22) that

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle \gamma Vx^* - \mu Fx^*, x_{n+1} - x^* \rangle \leq \langle \gamma Vx^* - \mu Fx^*, \bar{x} - x^* \rangle \leq 0.$$

Putting $p = x^*$, from (3.16) we immediately infer that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|x_{n+1} - x^*\|^2 \\ & \leq \left(1 - \beta_n \frac{\tau^2 - \gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau}\right) \|x_n - x^*\|^2 + \beta_n \frac{\tau^2 - \gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \\ & \quad \cdot \frac{\tau}{\tau^2 - \gamma^2 \rho^2} \left\{ 2\theta_n \frac{\gamma^2 \rho^2}{\tau} \|\gamma Sx^* - \mu Fx^*\| \|y_n - x^*\| \right. \\ & \quad \left. + 2\langle \gamma Vx^* - \mu Fx^*, x_{n+1} - x^* \rangle \right\} + \alpha_n \lambda \|x^*\| (2\|x_n - x^*\| + \lambda \alpha_n \|x^*\|). \end{aligned}$$

Repeating the same arguments as above, we can readily see that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|x_n - x^*\| = 0,$$

which, together with $\|x_n - y_n\| \rightarrow 0$, yields

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|y_n - x^*\| = 0.$$

This completes the proof. \square

Remark 3.3 Our iterative algorithm (3.1) is very different from Xu's iterative ones in [2], and Yao *et al.*'s iterative one in [8]. Here, the two-step iterative scheme in [8] for two non-expansive mappings and the gradient-projection iterative schemes in [2] for MP (1.1) are extended to develop our three-step iterative scheme (3.1) with regularization for the THVI (1.6). It is worth pointing out that without assuming the conditions that $\|x_n - y_n\| = o(\theta_n)$ and that $\|x - Tx\| \geq k \text{Dist}(x, \text{Fix}(T))$, $\forall x \in C$ for some constant $k > 0$, our three-step iterative scheme (3.1) converges strongly to an element $x^* \in \text{Fix}(T) \cap \text{MEP}(\Theta, \varphi) \cap \Gamma$, which is a unique solution of the variational inequality

$$\langle \gamma Vx^* - \mu Fx^*, x - x^* \rangle \leq 0, \quad \forall x \in \text{Fix}(T) \cap \text{MEP}(\Theta, \varphi) \cap \Gamma.$$

See Theorem 3.2(i).

Remark 3.4 As an example, we consider the following sequences:

- (a) $\alpha_n = \frac{1}{n^{1+s+t}}$, $\beta_n = \frac{1}{n^s}$, and $\theta_n = \frac{1}{n^t}$ where $t \in (0, \frac{1}{3}]$ and $s \in (t, 2t)$ or $t \in (\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{2})$, $s \in (t, 1-t)$;

$$(b) \quad r_n = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{n^{1+s+t}}.$$

They satisfy the hypotheses on the parameter sequences in Theorems 3.1 and 3.2.

Remark 3.5 Our Theorems 3.1 and 3.2 improve, extend, supplement, and develop [8, Theorems 3.1 and 3.2] and [2, Theorems 5.2 and 6.1] in the following aspects:

- (a) Our THVI (1.6) with the unique solution $x^* \in \mathcal{E}$ satisfying

$$x^* = P_{\text{Fix}(T) \cap \text{Fix}(\Gamma) \cap \mathcal{E}} (I - (\mu F - \gamma S))x^*$$

is more general than the problem of finding an element $\tilde{x} \in C$ satisfying $\tilde{x} = P_{\text{Fix}(T)} S\tilde{x}$ in [8] and the problem of finding an element $\tilde{x} \in \mathcal{E}$ in [2].

- (b) Our three-step iterative algorithm (3.1) for THVI (1.6) is more flexible, more advantageous and more subtle than Xu's iterative ones in [2] and than Yao *et al.*'s two-step iterative one in [8], because, *e.g.*, it drops the requirement of $\|x - Tx\| \geq k \text{Dist}(x, \text{Fix}(T))$, $\forall x \in C$ for some $k > 0$ in [8, Theorem 3.2(v)].
- (c) The arguments and techniques in our Theorems 3.1 and 3.2 are very different from the ones in [8, Theorems 3.1 and 3.2] and in [2, Theorems 5.2 and 6.1] because we utilize the properties of resolvent operators and maximal monotone mappings (Lemmas 2.5, 2.6 and 2.13), the convergence criteria of real sequences (Lemma 2.7), and the contractive coefficient estimates for the contractions associated with nonexpansive mappings (Lemma 2.12).
- (d) Compared with the proofs of [2, Theorems 5.2 and 6.1], the proofs of our Theorems 3.1 and 3.2 derive $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|u_n - P_C(I - \lambda \nabla f_{\alpha_n})u_n\| = 0$ via the argument showing $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|\nabla f_{\alpha_n}(u_n) - \nabla f(p)\| = 0$, $\forall p \in \text{Fix}(T) \cap \text{MEP}(\Theta, \varphi) \cap \Gamma$ (see Step 3 in the proof of Theorem 3.1).

Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

Authors' contributions

All authors contributed equally and significantly in writing this paper. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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